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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|--|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 10/670,697 | 09/24/2003 | Thomas D. Simon | 42P10954C | 6141 |
| 8791 | 7590 | 05/06/2004 | EXAMINER | |
| BLAKELY SOKOLOFF TAYLOR & ZAFMAN 12400 WILSHIRE BOULEVARD, SEVENTH FLOOR LOS ANGELES, CA 90025 | | | NGUYEN, HAI L | |
| | | | ART UNIT | PAPER NUMBER |
| | | | 2816 | |

DATE MAILED: 05/06/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/670,697

Applicant(s)

SIMON ET AL.

Examiner

Hai L. Nguyen

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 24 September 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1,3-8 and 27-32 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 1 and 3-8 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 27-32 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 24 September 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 24 September 2003.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claim 27-32 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Sywyk (US 5,336,938).

With regard to claim 27, Sywyk inherently discloses in Figs. 7-8B a method comprising a step of initiating an intermediate signal (ARBEF goes High) in response to detection of an initiating signal (when EFSync goes Low); terminating the intermediate signal (ARBEF goes Low) in response to detection of a terminating signal (when WROS goes Low); initiating an output signal (EF goes Low) in response to detection of the intermediate signal (when ARBEF goes High); and terminating the output signal (EF goes High) in response to detection of the terminating signal (when WROS goes Low), wherein the output signal includes a pulse having a pulse width determined by a first edge of the intermediate signal (Low to High of ARBEF) and a first edge of the terminating signal (High to Low of WROS).

With regard to claim 29, terminating the intermediate signal in response to a leading edge of the terminating signal (High to Low transition of WROS is considered of the leading edge of the negative pulse of WROS).

Claim 28 is similarly rejected; note the above discussion with regard to claim 29.

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With regard to claim 30, the method of Sywyk further comprises the step of generating the terminating signal (WROS) selected interval (Delay D0/D1) following the initiating signal (EFsync), the selected interval corresponding to a desired width of the output signal (EF).

With regard to claim 31, the intermediate signal and the output signal are initiated via a first edge-to-pulse converter (32) and a second edge-to-pulse converter (34) respectively.

With regard to claim 32, the intermediate signal is generated from an output of the first edge-to-pulse converter, which is coupled to an input of the second edge-to-pulse converter.

Allowable Subject Matter

3. Claims 1, 3-8 are allowed.

The prior art of record does not disclose or suggest a circuit, as recited in claim 1, comprising a first edge-to-pulse converter (404 in instant Fig.4) having a first input to receive an initiating signal (START) and a second input to receive a terminating signal (_STOP), the first edge-to-pulse converter to provide an intermediate initiating signal (INT_START) at an output (442); and specifically the limitation directed to a second edge-to-pulse converter (408) having a first input to receive the intermediate initiating signal and a second input to receive the terminating signal, the second edge to-pulse converter to provide a pulse (O_PULSE) having a width determined by a first edge of the intermediate initiating signal and a first edge of the terminating signal, wherein each of the first and second converters performs an AND operation on the signals applied to its first and second inputs.

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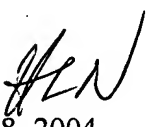
Conclusion

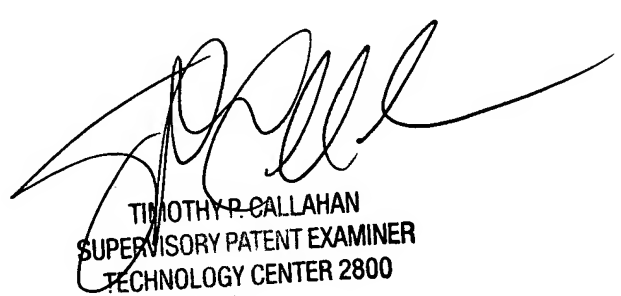
4. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. For example, Shah et al. (US 5,933,032) is cited as of interest because it discloses an apparatus and method for generating a pulse signal.

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Hai L. Nguyen whose telephone number is 571-272-1747 and Right Fax number is 571-273-1747. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Timothy Callahan can be reached on 571-272-1740. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is 703-872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 571-272-1562.

HLN 
April 28, 2004


TIMOTHY P. CALLAHAN
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800